

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Date of Deposit

Andrew D. Stover, Reg. No. 38,629

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

Our Case No.: 659/912

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: To be assigned

Group Art Unit No.: 1772

In re Application of:

Mlinar et al.

Serial No.: 10/034,994

Filing Date: December 28, 2001

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

WEAKENING A PORTION OFA

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FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by

DEC 1 7 2002 TC 1700 the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

| No. | Date | Name |
|--------------|---------|--------------|
| 6,478,786 B1 | 11/2002 | Glaug et al. |

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

| DOCUMENT NUMBER Number-Kind Code (if known) | DATE | COUNTRY |
|--|--------|---------|
| DE 198 13 334 A1 | 9/1999 | Germany |

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew D. Stover

Registration No. 38,629 Attorney for Applicant(s)

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. Box 10395 Chicago, IL 60610 (312) 321-4200

| PTO-1449 | SERIAL NO. | CASE NO. |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|
| | 10/034,994 | 659/912 |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR | FILING DATE | GROUP ART UNIT |
| APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | December 28, 2001 | 1772 |
| (use several sheets if necessary) | APPLICANT(S): Mlinar et al. | |

| REFERENCE DESIGNATION | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | |

| EXAMINER INITIAL | | DOCUMENT NUMBER Number-Kind Code (if known) | DATE NAME | | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | FILING DATE |
|---------------------|----|---|-----------|--------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | E1 | 6,478,786 B1 | 11/2002 | Glaug et al. | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER Number-Kind Code (if known) | | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS/ SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES OR NO | |
|---------------------|---|------------------|--------|---------|--------------------|--------------------------|--|
| | E2 | DE 198 13 334 A1 | 9/1999 | Germany | | YES | |
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| EXAMINER INITIAL | OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) | | | | | |
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TC 1700

EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Rev. Dec.-99

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| ENT & | TRANSMITTAL LETTE | | Group Art Unit | |
| Serial No. | Filing Date | Examiner | 1772 | • |
| 10/034,994 | December 28, 2001 | To be assigned | 1112 | |
| inventor(s) | | | | |
| Mlinar et al. | | | | |
| Title of Invention | ATUS FOR WEAKENING A PORTIC | N OF A WEB | | |

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| | Small entity sta | atus of this | application under | 37 CFR § 1.2 | 7 ha | s been estab | lished by | verified | statement pr | reviously |
| | Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR1.27. | | | | | | | | | |
| | Petition for amonth extension of time. | | | | | | | | | |
| \boxtimes | No additional fee is required. | | | | | | | | | |
| | The fee has bee | en calculated | as shown below: | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | Small | Entity | | Other Small I | |
| * | Claims Remaining After Amendment | <i>2</i> , | Highest No. Previously Paid For | Present Extra | | Rate | Add'I Fee | or | Rate | Add'I Fee |
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| | I hereby petition Please charge a copy of this she | any associal | CFR \$ 1-136(a) for ed fees which haved | r any extension re not otherwise | n of t | time required en paid to De | to ensure t posit Accou | that thi | s paper is tim 23-1925. A | ely filed. duplicate |
| | | | 140000 | Respectfull Andrew D Registration Attorney for | Stovi n No. | 38,629 | 59 | | 7 | - |
| P.O. BO | O, ILLINOIS 606 | | | | • | | · | ו נו | | IVED |
| I hereby cer | tify that this correspond | dence is being de | eposited with the United S | States Postal Service | as | | | | DEC 1 7 | 2002 |
| first class m Washington Date: | nail, with sufficient posts n, D.C. 20231, on | 772702 72 Signat | pe addressed to: Comm | issionel for Patents, | $\frac{1}{2}$ | | | 62 | TC 17 | 700 |
| rev. Dec00 Document4 | | O.g. id. | | 1 | D | | | | | |